

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims ~~3, 5, 6, 12-14, 18-22, 24 and 26-28~~ as follows:

A2 3. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the strip has a gauge of between 0.08 and 0.50mm.

A3 5. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the strip is cleaned electrolytically.

6. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the chemical coating is applied to the strip by a method of immersion, spraying, roller coating, or a combination thereof.

12. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the strip is chemically treated at a temperature of less than 100°C.

13. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the strip is chemically treated to form an anti-corrosive, adhesion promoting chemical coating between the strip and thermoplastic resin.

14. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the oxyanion coating comprises a phosphate, a chromate, an oxalate or an arsenate.

A5 18. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the chemical coating comprises less than 5 atomic % chromium.

19. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the chemically-treated strip is rinsed and/or dried prior to organic resin coating.

20. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein one or more layers of thermoplastic resin are applied to one or both sides of the chemically-treated strip.

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21. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the layer or layers of thermoplastic resin is/are melted and rapidly quenched to attain the required degree of crystalline structure.

22. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the chemically-treated strip is extrusion coated with at least one thermoplastic resin.

24. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the chemically-treated strip is coated with thermoplastic resin together with a bonding layer.

26. (Amended) A process according to claim 24 [or claim 25] wherein the thickness of the bonding layer is between 1 and 10 μm .

27. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin comprises polypropylene (PP), polyethyleneterephthalate (PET) or a combination thereof.

28. (Amended) A process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the thickness of the layer, or layers, of thermoplastic resin is/are between 3 and 50 μm .

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments, Applicants have amended the specification to add headings in accordance with preferred U.S. patent application format.

Further, Applicants have amended Claims 3, 5, 6, 12-14, 18-22, 24 and 26-28 to delete the multiple dependency and reduce the filing fee.